

General Audiences

No Archive Warnings Apply

M/M

Multi

LEGO Ninjago

Cole/Kai/Jay Walker/Zane

Cole & Lloyd Garmadon & Kai & Nya & Jay Walker & Zane

Cole & Lloyd Garmadon & Kai & Jay Walker & Zane

Lloyd Garmadon

Cole (Ninjago)

Kai (Ninjago)

Jay Walker

Zane (Ninjago)

Nya (Ninjago)

P.I.X.A.L. (Ninjago)

polyninja - Freeform

Lloyd Garmadon is Tired

Lloyd Garmadon Tries

Kissing

Mistletoe

Lloyd wants the ninja to stop pining and get their shit together

Background Nya/P.I.X.A.L.

Interventions

English

69 boughs of mistletoe on the wall

lloydenthusiast

Summary:

Purchasing sixty-nine (yes. Lloyd did that on purpose. Yes. It was funny. Yes. It was far too many) bundles of mistletoe online to hide around the monastery goes about as smoothly as one would expect.

Leaving them all around the house goes even better.

Or: The ninja are pining. Lloyd is sick of it.

Notes:

Huge thanks to Mel for beta reading this fic! I'm lov u.

I hope everyone enjoys!! No TWs for this one, just ninjas smoochin and fluff! Takes place after s13 of Ninjago, but there shouldn't be any major spoilers.

(See the end of the work for [more notes \(#work_endnotes\)_.](#))

The holidays have never been Lloyd's favorite time of year, and he has a sinking feeling that this time they'll be particularly dreadful. Why, you may ask?

Simple. Because the four biggest idiots Lloyd's ever met won't stop fucking dancing around each other.

It's *painful* at this point. He just wants them to sort their shit out and start dating already but noooo, Kai thinks Zane has a crush on Jay so he won't say anything to either of them, and then Jay has a massive crush on Cole and he's completely oblivious to his feelings for the other two. Cole knows he's in love with all three of them but won't say a word because he thinks Zane and Kai are dating and poor Zane is so busy wallowing in self-hatred that he's completely oblivious to *everything* and Lloyd thinks if he has to witness any more of this for the next month he's gonna end up committing four murders.

So he decides to, as any good brother would, intervene. It's a good idea, really. They're all obviously far too foolish to figure it out on their own, so Lloyd will just ... take matters into his own trustworthy hands. Yeah.

And he knows exactly how to do it.

Purchasing sixty-nine (yes. Lloyd did that on purpose. Yes. It was funny. Yes. It was far too many) bundles of mistletoe online to hide around the monastery goes about as smoothly as one would expect considering Pixal and Zane can both see everything happening on every computer in the monastery and Nya can most definitely hack into Lloyd's search history at any given moment and Lloyd's mother can see all of his purchases. No, he's not happy about that. Lloyd's an *adult*, thank you. He knows how to use money responsibly, no matter what this purchase may suggest. This is important! If he doesn't step in, the ninja may *never* get together, and then Lloyd will be trapped with their endless flirting until it drives him to a premature death.

However, luckily for Lloyd, Zane isn't looking at the computers at the time, Nya doesn't hack into his search history, and his mother doesn't question him.

Pixal, however, calls him down to the hangar bay within minutes of him pressing the *complete purchase* button on the screen. Lloyd begrudgingly heads downstairs, chucking three shurikens at the dartboard and taking the elevator to the hangar bay. The elevator doors open and—

"Lloyd, why exactly did you buy sixty-nine bundles of mistletoe?" Pixal stands in front of the elevator, hands on her hips. She's wearing a purple dress, her silver hair pinned up as usual.

Lloyd blinks. "No hello?" He steps out of the elevator. "I like your dress."

"Lloyd. You are up to something."

"What? No. That's ridiculous! What would I even be up to?" Pixal will definitely try to stop him from meddling. He cannot reveal *anything*.

Pixal gives him an unimpressed look. "Lloyd Montgomery—"

"Not the full name!" Lloyd yelps. Pixal's expression doesn't waver, her bright green eyes staring him down. Lloyd can't help it! He cracks. "Fine," he grumbles. "I'm trying, very valiantly, mind you, to get the others to sort their shit out."

"I was afraid you'd say that," Pixal says with a sigh. "You're lucky Master Wu is out exploring with your mother. He'd have your head at the sight of the first sprig."

Lloyd winces. He forgot about what Master Wu would say.

"But Master Wu is not here," Pixal continues, a mischievous glint in her eyes. "And you're gonna need some help."

Lloyd nearly cheers. "Can Nya help too?" he asks. They're gonna need all hands on deck! "We should decorate the *Bounty*, too. I mean, I bought enough, so—"

"Yes, you bought plenty." Pixal's expression returns to one unimpressed. "You do not need sixty-nine bundles of mistletoe."

Lloyd grins sheepishly. "Pix, you know I had to."

Pixal shakes her head, muttering something about teenage boys. "Let me call Nya down." She presses a button on her watch. A few moments later Nya walks out of the elevator.

"What's up?" Nya asks. She takes one look at Lloyd and her face falls. "What did you do?"

"Oh, come on!" Lloyd pouts. He's not *that* bad, is he? Sure, he pulls pranks sometimes but, like, really?

"Lloyd is going to try to set up the others," Pixal says. "He bought sixty-nine sprigs of mistletoe."

Nya snorts. "Nice." She and Lloyd do a fist bump, and Pixal groans.

"Children," Pixal huffs, walking over to the computers. "They're both children!"

Nya and Lloyd exchange grins, following Pixal across the hangar. Nya walks up to her girlfriend, wrapping her arm around Pixal's waist and murmuring something. Pixal smiles, kissing Nya's cheek. Lloyd pretends to retch. Only pretends. They're really cute, and he's really happy for them.

Besides, *they* have their shit together. *They* don't flirt relentlessly in front of him and *they* don't torture him with their incompetence.

"Lloyd, get over here," Nya says. Lloyd hurries over to the computer. Pixal has pulled up a map of the monastery, as well as a map of the bounty. She's got her computer pen in hand, and is circling various parts of the monastery in red.

"Here are all the places I think we should hang the mistletoe," Pixal says. "Over every doorway is all I've got so far."

Lloyd hums. "Over the couch," he says. "And their seats at the dining room table. Also over the oven and hanging off the statue. Oh! You should also put them in the seats in whatever vehicles too. You could probably do some hanging off the boom of the sail, oh and also—"

"Lloyd," Nya says, laughing. "Relax."

"What? We have sixty-nine bundles!" Lloyd laughs. He may be having far too much fun with this, but he *really* needs them to get together.

Pixal and Nya exchange what Lloyd hopes is a fond look.

"It's times like these I'm reminded you attended Darkley's," Pixal says. "And that you're part Oni."

Lloyd shrugs. Pixal adds circles to all the places he listed.

"Now what?" Nya asks.

"We wait for the package," Pixal says, saving the file to a private folder.

Waiting is absolutely agonizing. It takes three days. Three long, grueling days of endless flirting and tireless obliviousness. By the end of it, Lloyd is ready to lock the four of them in a room together and swallow the key.

Lloyd tries to spend time with them, he really does, but whenever he does, it goes *poorly*. The third day has Lloyd sitting on the couch, squished between Jay and Cole, with Kai and Zane on the loveseat watching them all play video games.

"Lloyd, now!" Cole says. Lloyd quickly runs up, grabbing the keytana from underneath the red dragon's belly.

"Nice!" Jay says.

Lloyd grins. "Thanks." He puts the keytana in his inventory and hops on top of the metal dragon, striking its weak point once more.

"You know, Prime Empire is much more fun to watch than to be trapped in," Kai says, his arm around Zane's shoulders. Lloyd wants to smack him.

"Yeah, getting cubed sucked," Cole says.

"You both abandoned me so early on," Jay says with a pout.

"I never abandoned you," Zane says.

"That's why you're my favorite." Jay winks at him. "The other two ..."

"Relax, zaptrap, we won't abandon you again," Cole says, elbowing him while landing a hit on the dragon.

Jay smiles, glancing at Cole with total heart eyes. Lloyd needs a barf bag.

Yeah, they're like this *all* the time. It's painful. It's so painful. Lloyd has seriously almost thrown up before.

Hence why he needs to fix things. Now.

His box arrives that night. He slips downstairs with it, and then he, Pixal, and Nya sneak around, hanging them all over the monastery and the *Bounty*. Lloyd can barely sleep that night, he's far too excited for the next day to come. What can he say? It's finally time.

He wakes up to loud voices. Very loud voices. Lloyd doesn't even bother getting dressed. He leaps out of bed, peering out his door.

"No! I'm not gonna—Zane, shut it!" Jay exclaims. Jay stands, red in the face, across from Kai. They're standing underneath Kai's doorway, mistletoe above them. Kai looks constipated. Zane stands behind Kai, amused.

"Jay, the rules say you have to kiss him," Zane says.

"You said that already!" Jay hisses.

"I mean, he's right." Cole comes from down the hall. "There's mistletoe. You have to kiss him."

"Not you, too," Jay says through gritted teeth. Oh, how Lloyd wishes he was recording. He bites his lip to avoid laughing.

"Well, I'm gonna go get breakfast," Cole says. He and Zane begin to walk away. "You two can't leave until you kiss."

"Cole, when I'm free from this ..." Jay trails off. "Freeze, right there," he says.

Cole and Zane freeze. All the color drains from Cole's face as realization dawns, and he looks up. Zane is dumbstruck, his mouth hanging open. Jay and Kai burst out laughing. This is *gold*.

"Shut it!" Cole snaps. "You two are still stuck."

That shuts them up very quickly, and Jay turns red again.

And Lloyd can't help it anymore. He bursts out laughing. Big mistake.

"You!" they all shout simultaneously. Kai and Jay move to leap toward him but Zane freezes their feet in place.

"I would like to kill him, too," Zane says. "But you cannot leave until you kiss."

"Fine!" Kai very quickly pecks Jay on the lips, melts the ice, and leaps toward Lloyd. Lloyd wishes he could've photographed Jay's face, or recorded the scream he let out, but instead he's far too busy taking off down the monastery halls as fast as he can, laughing all the way.

"Lloyd Montgomery Garmadon, when I get my hands on you!" Lloyd doesn't think he's ever heard Kai so mad, like, *ever*.

Oh, boy, if Lloyd survives this, it'll be the funniest thing in all of Ninjago. He is *so* glad they have security cameras all over the monastery. He cannot wait to compile the footage later into a home video to bring up at their wedding.

Lloyd runs into Pixal right as she exits her room. "Pix!" He hides behind her. Kai stops chasing him, his hand on fire. Lloyd swears he can see steam coming from his ears.

"Kai, why are you trying to murder Lloyd so early in the morning?" Pixal asks tiredly. Lloyd is so grateful to her.

"I just kissed Jay!" Kai exclaims. "Jay!"

Nya exits her room, giggling. "You kissed Jay?"

"Yeah! Thanks to that brat!" Kai lunges for Lloyd, who yelps and ducks out of the way, cowering further behind Pixal.

"It is too early for this," Pixal says firmly. "You can murder Lloyd after breakfast. Nya and I need him to help make the pancakes."

Lloyd can't help but laugh at the murderous expression on Kai's face. Kai stands, brushing off his clothes and crossing his arms.

"Didja get him?" Cole comes running down the hall. He pauses next to Kai.

Lloyd glances up and giggles. Cole and Kai follow his lead. A pristine sprig of mistletoe hangs from the ceiling beam.

"Okay," Cole deadpans. "He's dead."

"Shouldn't you be thanking him?" Nya teases.

Cole splutters. "Why would I—What?"

Nya laughs. "Come on, Pix, let's find our own mistletoe."

Pixal giggles and blushes. She takes Nya's outstretched hand and heads down the hall. Lloyd watches them go before turning back to Cole and Kai and paling. Cole's eye is twitching, and Kai still wears the same murderous expression from before.

Lloyd laughs nervously and hurries after them.

"You're dead, Garmadon!"

Lloyd has never been so grateful to be a ninja. If he didn't possess the capabilities that allow him to backflip over another human being at any given point in time, or disappear through a sunroof, or even crawl through a vent in the wall, he would definitely have been throttled by now.

Aside from the initial two kisses, Lloyd spots five more before Jay locks himself in his room, Zane goes out for a very long walk, Cole starts cooking, and Kai tries to take down a mistletoe. Little does Kai know, Lloyd used a staple gun *and* superglue.

Please don't tell Master Wu.

Pixal approaches him after Jay calls Nya into his room. "Lloyd."

“Yeah?” Lloyd watches Kai fail to pull a sprig of mistletoe off of a ceiling beam, get frustrated and storm off to the kitchen. A minute later there are shouts about kissing from Kai and Cole.

Lloyd chuckles to himself.

“How exactly does this get them together?” Pixal asks.

Lloyd blinks. “Huh,” he says. “You know, I didn’t think about that.”

Pixal gives him an unimpressed look.

“What? I figured it’d just force them to talk about it!”

Pixal sighs, turning and walking off while muttering something about him being an idiot. Lloyd elects to tune her out.

“Garmadon!” Kai yells from across the monastery. Lloyd looks around for an escape, spotting the laundry basket and diving into it. He makes himself comfortable, closing the top flap and peering through the two holes where one places their hands to pick it up. “I just kissed Cole for the second time today!” Kai comes storming down the hall. “Are you happy, now? Have you succeeded?” Kai pauses right in front of the laundry basket, looking around.

Kai turns, opens the laundry basket, grabs the back of Lloyd’s collar, and pulls him up like a cat.

“Hi, Kai,” Lloyd says, feigning innocence. Maybe if he looks cute enough, Kai won’t kill him. “What’s up?”

Kai’s hair almost looks like it’s on fire, steam coming from his ears.

“What exactly are you trying to achieve?” Kai asks. “Good answer, and you live.”

Lloyd doesn’t reply. Instead he looks up and points at the mistletoe above them.

Kai blinks. He groans, dropping Lloyd back in the laundry basket and turning back down the hall. The flap of the laundry basket closes, hitting Lloyd on the top of his head.

“Interesting,” Lloyd mutters, watching Kai walk off. So he’ll refuse to kiss Lloyd, but not the others ...

Lloyd grins. Excellent.

Lloyd does his best to pretend there’s absolutely nothing going on at dinner that night. He sits at the foot of the table as usual, Pixal to his left and Nya to his right. Next to Nya sits Kai then Jay, and next to Pixal sits Cole then Zane.

Lloyd can feel eyes on him as he twirls his spaghetti. “Food’s great,” he says. “Thanks, Cole, and Zane.”

“You’re. Welcome,” Cole says through gritted teeth. “I only had to kiss Zane five times while making it.”

Lloyd snickers. “And you’re mad about that.”

“Lloyd,” Cole’s tone is warning. Out of self preservation, and not wanting to genuinely piss off any of the ninja, Lloyd shuts up. They eat mostly in silence.

“Kai, Jay, I believe it’s your turn for dishes?” Pixal says.

“You bet,” Jay says, a lazy smile on his face. “Kai, ready to make out in the kitchen?”

Kai buries his face in his hands and screams something unintelligible but vaguely sounding like Lloyd’s name.

“Congrats, Jay, you broke him,” Cole says.

“Kai, baby,” Jay says. “Relax. It’s just a kiss.”

Kai raises his head and gives Lloyd the most murderous glare he’s ever been on the receiving end of. Lloyd will admit, whatever’s gotten into Jay is quite unsettling.

Lloyd smiles sheepishly. “I think I’m gonna use the bathroom.” He slides back his chair and bolts down the hall. He uses the bathroom, washes his hands, opens the door, and shrieks.

“Hello, Lloyd,” Cole deadpans.

Lloyd blinks. “Cole.” He forces a laugh. “Hey, man, how are you?”

“Let’s walk and talk.” Cole takes his wrist, pulling him through the halls to Lloyd’s bedroom. He shuts the door behind them.

“Why are we—”

“I figured if anywhere didn’t have mistletoe, it’d be here,” Cole says. “Considering every other inch of the monastery is covered in it.”

“And the *Bounty*,” Lloyd mutters.

“What?”

“Nothing.” Lloyd sits at his desk. “What’s up?”

“What do you think you’re doing?” Cole asks, folding his arms. He’s much taller than Lloyd, even more so now that Lloyd’s sitting, but Lloyd isn’t scared. Cole’s not scary.

Lloyd shrugs, putting his feet up on the desk. “Something for the good of the people,” he says.

“Lloyd,” Cole says warningly. He takes a step closer. “If you don’t cut it out, I’ll tell Master Wu what you’re doing, and your mother. I’ll also post that video of you dancing *and* singing to the glow worm song while you were sweeping the game room last week.”

Lloyd’s blood runs cold. He drops his feet and stands. “I don’t know what video you’re talking about.” Maybe Cole *is* scary.

Cole smirks. “You need a reminder?”

“No!” Lloyd yelps. “No, but Cole, you have to trust me, okay? You will be thanking me later.”

“Why would I thank you?”

“You’ll see!” Lloyd says. He places his hands on Cole’s shoulders, turns him around, and pushes him out the door. “Just trust me, okay? Just have faith in your wonderful little brother.”

Cole grunts. “You’re lucky you’re cute.” He walks off.

Lloyd peers around the corner, watching as he walks directly into Jay.

“Sorry, Jay, I didn’t see you,” Cole says.

Jay looks up and grins. He puckers his lips.

Cole glances back at Lloyd, motioning ‘I’m watching you,’ with his hands. Lloyd snickers, taking off in the opposite direction down the hall. He makes it halfway toward the game room before running into Zane.

“Zane!” Lloyd yelps.

“Lloyd, hello,” Zane says. “I was just looking for you.”

Lloyd laughs nervously. “Were you now?”

Zane looks up and hums. “That won’t do.”

Lloyd follows his gaze to see a mistletoe hanging from the ceiling. He shrugs. “I mean, Kai just ran away when we got caught under one, you don’t have to—”

He’s cut off by Zane gently kissing his forehead.

“There,” Zane says. “Come, let’s chat.”

Lloyd blinks. What just ... What just *happened*?

“Lloyd? Are you joining me?” Zane’s halfway down the hall, about to enter the game room.

Lloyd snaps out of it. He nods, heading down the hall and joining Zane in the game room, shutting the door behind them. Lloyd sits on the couch, while Zane sits in the loveseat.

“Lloyd ... I want you to be honest with me.” Zane has a small frown on his face. Lloyd nods, encouraging him to continue. “Do you think the other ninja like me?”

Lloyd blinks.

Zane ...

“Yeah,” Lloyd says. “I do, I think they’re all very fond of you.”

Zane’s frown deepens. “Are you sure?”

Lloyd nods, smiling. “I’m sure, Zane. They really like you a lot.”

“Like, like *that*?”

Lloyd shrugs. “Not sure. You should ask.”

Zane’s face morphs to panic. “I most certainly cannot do that!”

“Just do it, Zane. Trust me, it’ll go better than you think.”

“What does that mean?” Zane asks. Lloyd stands, walking toward the door. “Lloyd!”

“Just trust me!”

Lloyd thinks things are going pretty well. He’s still alive and nobody *seems* to be that mad at him.

However, he forgot to consider one critical detail. He is also a human being who can get caught under the mistletoe with other human beings. The first time it was fine. Kai just ignored it. But then Zane kissed him on the forehead, and he must’ve said *something* to the others because suddenly anytime he’s caught under the mistletoe with anyone, he gets a kiss on the forehead.

Lloyd doesn’t know what to do!! What do you do?? He’s not used to this affection!! Someone get him outta here!!

Even *worse*, the other ninja seem to have just completely accepted the fact that they have to kiss each other constantly, but they *still* haven’t talked about it.

Okay. So maybe Lloyd lied. Things *aren’t* going pretty well. Nothing’s going to plan at all. The other ninja are still obnoxiously flirty and oblivious, and even worse, now they’re kissing each other! But they’re still all angsty and they’re

still all secretly upset!

What the fuck!

Lloyd drags himself out of bed, meandering down the hall and to the kitchen without bothering to change out of his pajamas. The pants are slightly too long (probably because they're Kai's), hanging over his ankles, but he doesn't care.

Nya and Pixal are the only ones in the kitchen, luckily.

"Aw, Lloyd," Nya says once he shuffles in. "What's up?"

"I forgot to account for a critical variable," Lloyd mumbles, taking a seat at the island.

Pixal and Nya exchange a look. "And what is that?" Pixal asks.

"They're idiots!" Lloyd exclaims. "They're all idiots! They're just, they're just kissing! Without talking!"

Pixal smiles as Nya laughs. "They are foolish, aren't they?" Pixal says.

Lloyd groans. "And they all keep kissing my forehead," he grumbles. "Like, no."

Nya smirks, walking around the counter.

"Nya, Nya, wait," Lloyd tries to say, but it's too late. Nya's already grabbed his face and kissed his forehead.

"Blegh!" Lloyd swats her away. Nya walks away laughing. She joins Pixal on the other side of the counter and wraps an arm around her waist, standing on her tiptoes to kiss her cheek.

"Are we giving Lloyd affection?" Kai asks, walking into the kitchen with a grin.

"No," Lloyd says. "No, no we are not giving Lloyd affection!" Kai approaches him, a smirk on his face. Lloyd slips off the stool, backing away.

"Oh? Are we getting revenge?" Cole enters as well, Jay and Zane behind him.

Lloyd pales. "We are not getting revenge!"

Nya snorts. "'Course you aren't, they are."

"C'mon, Lloyd, we all know you don't actually hate affection," Jay teases. He's still acting strange, but it does seem to be a bit better.

"Not true!"

The ninja all laugh. Lloyd flushes.

"I don't like it! I hate it!" he insists. His back hits the wall, but before he can run, Kai's pulling him in for a hug.

"Kai, lemme go," Lloyd says, voice muffled by Kai's shoulder.

"No way, green bean."

"Oh! Oh! Let us join!" Three people join their hug, and soon enough Lloyd's squished between all the ninja. He sighs. Better than being kissed, he supposes.

Until Kai pulls away and kisses his forehead. Then Jay, then Zane, then Cole.

Lloyd wrinkles his nose, but he can't help the warmth blooming in his chest. Affection is gross.

But maybe it isn't so bad when it's from his friends.

By the end of the week, Lloyd is ready to commit four murders. Again.

They still haven't talked about it at all! Jay is still eerily calm, Zane seems to have accepted the fact that they aren't talking, Cole almost looks like he's seeking out the mistletoe, and Kai no longer threatens murder at every turn.

Lloyd has had enough.

"Kai, come with me to the game room?" Lloyd says, poking his shoulder. Kai's standing at the fridge.

"Huh? Oh, sure," Kai says. He follows Lloyd to the game room, unable to see the mischievous grin on Lloyd's face. Kai is the last one he has to get in there. When they reach the game room, Lloyd opens the door for Kai, motioning for him to walk in. Kai walks in. Lloyd yanks the door shut, locking it from the outside.

"Talk, fuckers!" Lloyd yells through the crack. There's commotion on the other side of the door.

"This door doesn't even lock from the outside!" Cole calls.

"I switched the locks yesterday!" Lloyd calls back. He chuckles to himself. "I am so smart." He pockets the key and walks off. Time to go join Nya and Pixal in watching the live camera feed. His phone dings with a text.

>> Kai

If we ever get out of here

i AM going to kill you

Lloyd laughs, turning his phone off. He makes it downstairs, where Pixal and Nya are standing at the screen.

"How long you think it'll be before they realize we're watching them?" Lloyd asks, approaching them.

"I give it five," Nya says. "Let's just hope they work it out before then."

They're arguing, now, Lloyd notes as he reaches the screen. Jay is still eerily calm, just sitting on the couch watching the other three (mostly Kai and Cole) bicker.

"This is so weird," Lloyd says. "What's gotten into Jay?"

"You've overloaded his brain," Nya says. "He'll snap eventually."

Kai and Cole are on their feet now.

"You kissed Lloyd on the forehead! Why'd you kiss me on the mouth!" Kai's yelling.

"They are so stupid," Pixal mutters.

Cole closes and opens a fist. "Because Lloyd's like a little brother to me! That's just weird, dude."

"You both need to relax. So we like kissing each other on the mouth, who cares?" Jay says, yawning.

Zane is silent as Cole and Kai burst into protest.

"I never said I liked it!" they both exclaim.

Jay waves flippantly. "Details."

"Jay," Kai grunts. "Will you stop being so." He waves his hands around. "Gah!"

"Kai, baby, relax."

"Stop calling me baby!" Kai exclaims.

Jay's lips quirk to a grin. He stands. "You like it," he says.

"I do not!"

Jay and Kai dissolve into bickering, while Cole drops onto the couch beside Zane. Zane is sitting stiff as a board, a frown on his face as he stares at the floor.

"Who do you think will snap first?" Nya asks. "My money's on Cole."

"Cole? No way, he's so emotionally constipated. It'll be Jay."

Pixal's silent for a moment. "Zane," she says. "It's gonna be Zane."

As if on cue, Zane stands. "Enough," he says quietly. Jay and Kai immediately stop talking. "I have a confession to make."

Cole stands as well, resting a hand on Zane's shoulder. "Pinky, you don't have to say anything you don't want to."

Zane gives him a look. "I do," he says. "For the team. And because I'm pretty sure Lloyd only went this far because he was tired of us dancing around each other."

"I think he did it because he's a brat," Kai mutters.

"Ouch," Lloyd says. Pixal and Nya laugh.

"I ..." Zane swallows. "I didn't think it was possible, because I did not know that nindroids could feel romantic love." He looks up from the floor. "But it is, and I have very strong feelings for all three of you. I used to think you were my brothers, but I've learned that the way I love you is more than that of a brother to a brother. I'm *in* love with you. I liked kissing you, and I like being close to you." Zane speaks calmly, but through the grainy camera, Lloyd can see his hands shake. "And if you'll have me, I'd love to be more than just friends."

Kai's hair has lit on fire.

"Of course!" Jay exclaims. "Zane, I've had a crush on you for years! And reluctantly Cole and Kai, too!"

"Hey, whaddaya mean, *reluctan*—"

"Yeah, same," Cole says with a grin, cutting Kai off. "I really ... I really love you guys."

"Finally!" Lloyd laughs, looking away and pumping his fist. "It worked! I can't believe it worked!"

Nya ruffles his hair. "Way to go, squirt."

Lloyd turns back to the screen, they're all hugging now, laughing.

Kai pulls away first. "I guess we owe Lloyd a thank you, then."

Lloyd grins, reaching for the intercom button.

"Lloyd, wait, I don't think that's the best—" Pixal tries to say.

"Hell yeah, you do!" Lloyd presses the button. "You're welcome!"

Kai turns scarlet. "Nevermind. Our first date is killing you."

"You're dead, Garmadon!" Cole calls.

Lloyd laughs. "Happy for you four!" He turns off the intercom and switches off the video feed, the last image of them leaving the room.

Lloyd stands, hands on his hips, grinning proudly. "I can't believe that worked," he says. "Man, I am so good at this."

Pixal and Nya eye him skeptically, and the elevator begins to ding as it descends.

"Lloyd," Pixal says. "I would start running if I were you."

Lloyd laughs, a little more nervous this time. "Okay, um, yeah." He spots his bike across the room. "Bye!" He runs across, hopping into the vehicle and taking off just as the ninja arrive in the hangar.

He's done his duty as their little brother.

It ends up gloriously backfiring.

Not only is Lloyd regularly receiving affection (which he definitely hates), but the ninja now kiss *all the time*, and they're even *more* gross than they were before. Not to mention, Lloyd can't get the mistletoe down, and when Master Wu returns, he's *pissed*.

But it's alright. Lloyd can't bring himself to really care. The ninja are the happiest Lloyd's ever seen! And he loves them! Not that he'll ever admit it.

He's happy for them, really happy for them, and they're no longer painfully pining, which is nice.

So if Lloyd were to give it a rating out of ten, he'd give the whole experience a ten; even if Kai still makes sly jabs at him here or there, or if Cole held him in a headlock for five minutes after he returned to the monastery.

It was totally worth it.

Notes:

Hello friends!! I hope you all enjoyed my second Ninjago fic!! This one was So Much Fun to write, especially all the parts where Jay returns to First Realm Jay. Thank you so much for reading!! :)

Stay safe and healthy my friends <3

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